

**Amendment to the Specification:**

*Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 14-29 with the following:*

The cleaning plate assembly of the present invention is preferably configured for use with all of the wire electrodes of the electrode array. In the embodiment shown in Figure 3, the electrode array consists of three wire electrodes 116. As such, the cleaning plate assembly 20 has three receiving ports 26, each for receiving one wire electrode 116 of the electrode array. The wire electrodes 116, in Figure 3, are shown in a collinear relationship. It is envisioned that the cleaning plate 20 of the present invention can be adapted to accommodate wire electrodes that are not collinear. Furthermore, it is within the scope of the present invention to adapt the cleaning mechanism to accommodate less ~~that~~ than all of the wire electrodes in an electrode array. Specifically, the cleaning mechanism 20 can be adapted for use with one or more wire electrodes, and more preferably, with at least two wire electrodes.

*Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 30 and ending on page 7, line 15, with the following:*

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, as shown in Figure 4, the cleaning plate assembly 20 includes a first plate 30 and a second plate 32. The first and second plates 30, 32 are interlockable to form the cleaning plate assembly 20. Corresponding engagement members 34 (shown in Figure 5) are provided to interlock the first and second plates 30, 32 to each other. In one embodiment of the invention, as shown in Figure 4, the corresponding engagement members 34 are a locking post 36 integrally

attached to and extending from a surface of the first or second plate. The locking post 36 friction fits into a corresponding hole 38 on the other plate. In the embodiment shown in Figure 4, each of the first and second plates 30, 32 include a locking post 36 and corresponding hole 38 so that the plates can be interlocked at two positions. The engagement members 34 are not limited to those described herein but can include any known device that can engage the first plate 30 with the second plate 32 to form the cleaning plate assembly 20.